

Remarks

Consideration of newly-submitted claims 29-38 is respectfully requested.

In the Office action dated April 23, 2003 (application No. 8), the Examiner cited numerous 35 USC § 112, second paragraph rejections of claims 1-28 as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention.

In response, applicants have cancelled claims 1-28 and now present for examination claims 29-38 drawn to both a method and system of evaluating an aging property of a distributed Bragg reflector (DBR) laser. The Examiner is referred to the specification at page 7 and associated FIG. 6 for the substantive support for these newly-submitted claims.

Applicants believe that newly-presented claims 29-38 are in condition for allowance over the references cited by the Examiner (but not applied against any of original claims 1-28). Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to review these claims and find the case ready to issue. If for any reason the Examiner does not agree that the case is ready to issue and that an interview or telephone conversation would further the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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